

Biography

As California's senior Senator, Dianne Feinstein has built a reputation as an independent voice, working with both Democrats and Republicans to find common-sense solutions to the problems facing California and the Nation.

Since her election to the Senate in 1992, Senator Feinstein has worked in a bipartisan way to build a significant record of legislative accomplishments helping strengthen the nation's security both here and abroad, combat crime and violence, battle cancer, and protect natural resources in California and across the country.

In the 110th Congress, Senator Feinstein assumed the Chairmanship of the Rules and Administration Committee, where she oversees ethics, campaign and election reform. Senator Feinstein also serves on the Senate Judiciary Committee, where she is the Chairman of the Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security Subcommittee. And she is a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Senator Feinstein is also a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. She currently serves as the Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Interior Department and Related Agencies, and is a member of the Subcommittees on Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, Defense, Energy & Water, and Transportation-Housing. She previously served as the Ranking Member of the Military Construction and Veteran Affairs Subcommittee.

The following are Senator Feinstein's committee assignments for the 110th Congress:

- **Chairman – Rules and Administration Committee**
- **Member – Judiciary Committee**
 - Chairman - Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security Subcommittee
 - Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship Subcommittee
 - Crime, Corrections and Victims Rights Subcommittee
 - Administrative Oversight and the Courts
 - The Constitution, Civil Rights, and Property Rights

- **Member – Appropriations Committee**
 - Chairman – Interior and Related Agencies Subcommittee
 - Agriculture Subcommittee
 - Commerce-Justice-Science Subcommittee
 - Defense Subcommittee
 - Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee
 - Transportation-Housing Subcommittee

- **Member – Select Committee on Intelligence**

In addition to her official committee assignments, Senator Feinstein is also a member of several organizations and associations. Among Senator Feinstein's many affiliations, she serves as Co-Chair of the Senate Cancer Coalition, the Anti-Meth Caucus, the Congressional Dairy Caucus and the Congressional Former Mayors Caucus. She has served as a member of the Aspen Strategy Group since 1997.

Among her many accomplishments:

Environment & Natural Resources

- **California Desert Protection:** Protecting more than 7 million acres of pristine California desert -- the largest such designation in the history of the continental United States.

- **Calfed:** Authorizing \$395 million for a balanced program to increase California's water supply, reliability and quality and help restore sensitive water ecosystems.

- **Healthy Forests:** Reducing the risk of catastrophic fire in our forests by expediting the thinning of hazardous fuels and providing the first legal protection for old-growth forests in our nation's history.

- **Lake Tahoe Restoration** - Preserving and restoring this treasured natural resource by authorizing \$300 million in federal funds over 10 years to match investments by the States of California and Nevada and local authorities.

- **Headwaters Forest Agreement** - Obtaining funding and brokering agreement to save the "Headwaters Forest," a 7,500 acre national treasure and the largest privately held stand of uncut old-growth redwoods.
- **San Francisco Bay Wetlands Restoration** - Negotiating public-private purchase of 16,500 acres of salt ponds along the San Francisco Bay - the largest such wetlands restoration project in California history.

Homeland Security

- **Border Security and Visa Entry Reform** - Helping prevent terrorists from entering the United States through loopholes in our immigration system.
- **Criminalization of Border Tunnels** – Closed a loophole in federal law by criminalizing the act of constructing or financing a tunnel or subterranean passage across an international border into the United States.
- **Protecting America's Seaports**– Securing our nation's 361 seaports from terrorism and organized crime through the creation of new criminal offenses.

Crime and Justice

- **Crime Victims Rights** - Giving victims of violent crime a core set of procedural rights under federal law and ensuring that they have standing to assert their rights before a court.
- **Assault Weapons Ban** - Prohibiting the manufacture and sale of 19 types of military-style assault weapons from 1994-2004.
- **Combat Meth Act** – Giving law enforcement the tools needed to combat the spread of methamphetamine by restricting the sale of products necessary to cook methamphetamine and authorizing \$585 million for enforcement, training, and research into meth treatment.
- **National AMBER Alert Network** – Creating nationwide AMBER Alert communications network to help law enforcement find abducted children.

Health

- **Breast Cancer Research Stamp** – Raising more than \$50 million for breast cancer research.

Senator Feinstein's career has been one of firsts – she was the first woman President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, the first woman Mayor of San Francisco, the first woman elected Senator of California, and the first woman member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Most recently, Senator Feinstein became the first woman to serve as the Chairman of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee.

A native of San Francisco, she was elected to the San Francisco County Board of Supervisors in 1969 and served 2 ½ terms as President of the Board. She became Mayor of San Francisco in November 1978 following the assassination of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk.

The following year she was elected to the first of two four-year terms. As Mayor, Dianne Feinstein managed the City's finances with a firm hand, balancing nine budgets in a row. In 1987, City and State Magazine named her the nation's "Most Effective Mayor."

As a Senator, Dianne Feinstein has received a number of awards for her service, including the Grammy on the Hill award from the Recording Academy (September 2006), the League of California Cities Congressional Leader of the Year Award (May 2006), the William Penn Mott Jr. Park Leadership Award for singular outstanding achievement on behalf of national park protecting (March 2006), the Outstanding Member of the U.S. Senate Award by the National Narcotic Officers Associations Coalition (February 2005), the Funding Hero Award from the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (October 2004), the Women of Achievement Award from the Century City Chamber of Commerce (October 2004), and the Woodrow Wilson Award for Public Service in 2001.

For further information on Senator Feinstein, her accomplishments, her legislative priorities, or on obtaining constituent services from her office, please go to her website at <http://feinstein.senate.gov>.